

REMARKS AND RESPONSES

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended. Support for the amendments is found in the specification and claims as filed. Accordingly, the amendments do not constitute the addition of new matter.

Claims 10 and 20 would be allowable. Claims 9-10 and 19-20 have been cancelled without prejudice. As a result, claims 1-8 and 11-18 remain pending in the present application. Reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and following comments is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §103

With respect to Paragraphs 3-7 of the Office Action, the Office Action rejected claims 1-3, 5-7, 11-13, and 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al (US 6,122,319) in view of Chen (US 6,301,385). The Office Action also rejected claims 4, 8, 9, 14, 18, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) by other references. Of the rejected claims, only claims 1 and 11 are independent.

Claim 1 of the present application has been amended to incorporate the original claim 9 and 10, wherein the feature in claim 10 would be allowable for including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, the amended claim 1 is allowable over the arts of record.

Claim 10 of the present application has been amended to incorporate the original claim 19 and 20, wherein the feature in claim 20 would be allowable for including all of

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the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, the amended claim 11 is allowable over the arts of record.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 11 as amended are allowable over the art of record and respectfully requests the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 1 and 11 to be reconsidered and withdrawn. In addition, insofar as claims 2-8 and 12-18 respectively depend from independent claims 1 and 11 and add further limitations thereto, the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of these claims should be withdrawn as well.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

With respect to Paragraph 8 of the Office Action, the Office Action stated that claims 10 and 20 would be allowable for including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As stated above, the limitations of claims 9 and 10 have been incorporated into the amended claim 1, and the limitations of claims 19 and 20 have been incorporated into the amended claim 11. Therefore, the amended claims 1 and 11 are allowable.

Conclusions

For all of the above reasons, applicants submit that the specification and claims are now in proper form, and that the claims define patentably over prior arts. Moreover, other cited references of record have been studied, and are found no more relevant to the present invention than the applied arts. Therefore, early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harold L. Novick", written in a cursive style.

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